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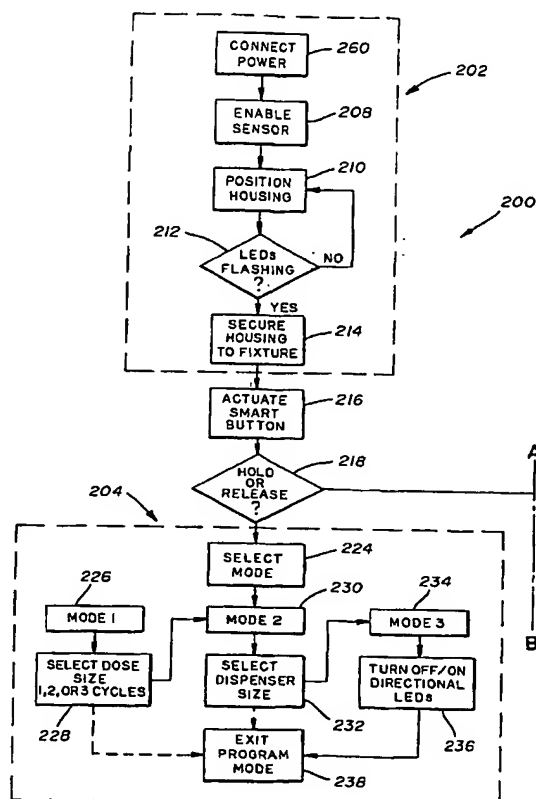
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR HANDS-FREE DISPENSING OF A MEASURED QUANTITY OF MATERIAL



(57) Abstract: An apparatus for automatically dispensing a fluid includes a container adapted to carry a supply of fluid, and a valve connected to said container, wherein actuation of said valve dispenses the fluid. Also included is an apparatus position indicator proximally associated with the container and an object sensor positioned near the valve. The object sensor monitors an area below where the valve dispenses when open and upon detection of an object opens said valve. Initial positioning of the apparatus triggers the apparatus position indicator to generate an appropriate signal until said object sensor is properly positioned. Once positioned the device may be permanently secured. A control circuit within the apparatus also allows programming of lighting indicators, dispense cycle size, and dispense quantities. The control circuit also provides for overload protection, motor braking and RF shielding.



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,390,329 B1 (MADDOX) 21 May 2002 (21.05.2002), See Figure 1.	7,16-17,20
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Y		18-19
A	US 6,206,238 B1 (OPHARDT) 27 March 2001 (27.03.2001), See Figures 1-4.	1-24
A	US 5,761,818 A (HOPKINS et al) 09 June 1998 (09.06.1998), See Figures 1-4.	1-24
A	US 6,036,056 A (LEE et al) 14 March 2000 (14.03.2000), See Figures 1-2.	1-24

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